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**SUBJECT: Proposal to Meet the Adverse Effect of Weather on
Priority Requirements in North Vietnam**

1. The Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance has reviewed the current tense situation in Southeast Asia and concludes that in the light of that situation and the prevailing bad weather in the area (which will continue at least through July) Operations should be give the latitude to operate against localized cloud-free areas when the weather will not permit coverage of all of the highest priority targets in a single mission.

2. Special Group permission has been granted for two missions per month during May, June, and July. Thus far only one mission has been flown in May. There are 30 highest priority target areas and the governing requirement is for surveillance to monitor the military situation in these areas. It is proposed that the remaining mission for May and the two for June be flown at the earliest opportunity even though all fall in June, if on the order of 25% of the targets are forecast to be cloud-free. During this period COMOR, taking into account the coverage which by that time may have been obtained, will present to the Special Group an evaluation of the 30 highest priority

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targets indicating the frequency with which each must be covered in order to monitor adequately the movement of military forces.

3. Recommendation: That approval be given to conduct U-2 reconnaissance over North Vietnam if on the order of 25% of the first priority targets are forecast to be cloud-free, and that the remaining approved mission for May be approved for June (if not flown during May) and that the two missions approved for June be flown as soon as the 25% criterion can be met.

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20--OCI TCO
21--OSI TCO
22--ORR TCO
23, 24--DDP TCO
25--DDR
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